

**MINUTES OF THE
SENATE JUDICIAL CONFIRMATION COMMITTEE**
Monday, February 26, 2007 –12:00 p.m. – Room W140 House Building

Members Present:

Sen. D. Chris Buttars, Chair
Sen. Gregory S. Bell
Sen. Mike Dmitrich
Sen. Michael G. Waddoups

Staff Present:

Ms. M. Gay Taylor, General Counsel
Mr. Jerry D. Howe, Policy Analyst
Ms. Brooke Ollerton, Legislative Secretary

Members Absent:

Sen. Lyle W. Hillyard

Note: A list of others present, a copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

1. Committee Business

Chair Buttars called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. and explained how the meeting would proceed.

MOTION: Sen. Dmitrich moved to close the meeting for the purpose of discussing the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of Mr. Thomas. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Waddoups absent for the vote.

MOTION: Sen. Dmitrich moved to open the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Interview of Mr. Douglas B. Thomas

Mr. Thomas was placed under oath. He introduced his family and offered a personal statement regarding his reasons for applying for the position.

Sen. Waddoups asked him if there was anything in his background which, if committed while he was a judge and if generally known, would be an embarrassment to the judiciary.

Mr. Thomas responded that there was not.

Sen. Dmitrich noted that the community in Carbon County is very diverse and Mr. Thomas' experience there would be unique. He welcomed Mr. Thomas to the Seventh District.

Mr. Thomas responded to questions from the committee about the death penalty, the second amendment, and judicial activism.

MOTION: Sen. Dmitrich moved to recommend to the full Senate the confirmation of Mr. Thomas to the position of judge in the Seventh District Court. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Other Items / Adjourn

MOTION: Sen. Dmitrich moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Buttars adjourned the meeting at 12:33 p.m.